



CITY OF ST. MARYS
418 OSBORNE STREET
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA 31558

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2012

The meeting began at 5:30 PM.

HPC roll call indicated there was a quorum present for the meeting. The following committee members were present: Kay Westberry, Tim Ward, George Beaver, James Stacy and Chris Thurner. Rosemary Rillo & Winona Hartung were not in attendance.

Roger Weaver represented the Planning Department.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 MEETING MINUTES: *Chris Thurner made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

OLD BUSINESS: - None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **COA – ALTERATION:** - City of St. Marys, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval to replace the existing front door of the Submarine Museum, located at 102 W. St. Marys Street, with an aluminum door & frame. The City would also like to request approval for a privacy fence to be constructed between Sharkbite's Restaurant and the Submarine Museum. The property is zoned C-1, Tax Parcel S41-08-007.

Roger Weaver, Planning Director, presented the request to the Historic Preservation Commission. There were no comments or questions from the public. Chris Thurner made a motion to approve the door as submitted;; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

George Beaver made a motion to approve the fence; Second by James Stacy. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSION:

- **First Presbyterian Church – 100 Conyers Street – Demolition of the Christian Education Building.**

Mr. Chuck Fulton represented the First Presbyterian Church expressing the church's desire to demolish the Christian Education Building due to the structure being uninhabitable mainly due to problems with mold. Mr. Fulton stated it would be cheaper to remove the structure than to make the necessary repairs. The church would like to obtain permission from the HPC to remove the structure and landscape the property as a continuation of the adjoining park. Per the HPC ordinance, the HPC requested Mr. Fulton to present a

drawing of the church's plans for that property after the demolition of the structure. Mr. Fulton agreed to come back with drawings as requested.

- **Wheeler Street – Abandoned vehicle and clean-up of area** – Kay Westberry expressed concerns with abandoned vehicles on Wheeler Street and Seagrove Street. Roger Weaver stated he would look at the properties and proceed with addressing the abandoned vehicles under the regulations of code enforcement.
- **Trees in the Historic District** – The HPC has requested the minutes from the Tree Board be forwarded to the HPC members so when the HPC members see trees being removed they will know whether they have received approval.
- **Letter of Appreciation to Pauley's Café** – Kay Westberry requested the Planning Department to send a letter from the HPC members expressing their appreciation of the excellent work Mr. Haugin did in making the requested changes to his fence.
- **Election of Officers – Scheduled for January 15, 2013** – Reminder to HPC members the election of officers is scheduled for the January 15, 2013 HPC meeting.
- **HPC Support Letter for Grant** – Kay Westberry explained to the HPC how the City has agreed to apply for a grant from the State DNR Historic Preservation Division to do a ground penetrating radar survey in the African American section of the cemetery. Part of the requirements in applying for the grant is a letter from the HPC must be submitted expressing their support of the grant. The HPC were unanimous in their support of applying for the grant.
- **Cemetery Signs** – Roger Weaver explained the signs should be ready. The sign company will be contacted and Kay Westberry will be contacted to assist in the placement of the signs.
- **Orange Hall** – Roger Weaver provided an update on the progress of the painting of Orange Hall.
- **Donation to the Garden Club of Georgia's Historic Landscape Garden & Grant Program** – A letter was submitted from the Historic Preservation Chairman of The Garden Club of GA, Inc. notifying the HPC a donation was made by Leslie Mary Wells of the St. Marys Garden Club in honor of the City of St. Marys because of the children of St. Marys exemplary stewardship in lending a hand to keep our city clean.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC

Next Public Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission: The next regular monthly meeting will be January 15, 2012 at 5:30PM in the Council Chambers at 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING: George Beaver made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Second by James Stacy. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35PM.

GENERAL NOTES FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING:

All items presented and discussed at the meeting were presented in an open forum so that the audience heard any discussions concerning applications. Due to technical difficulties, this meeting was not voice recorded.